

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

D.T.E. 02-27

April 25, 2002

Petition of Southern Union Company for authorization and approval to issue and distribute up to 2.7 million shares of common stock as a dividend payment to equity shareholders, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, §§ 11 and 14.

Southern Union Company ("Southern Union" or "Company") filed a petition with the Department of Telecommunications and Energy ("Department") for approval, pursuant to G.L. c. 164, §§ 11 and 14, to issue and distribute up to 10 million shares of common stock as a dividend payment to the Company's equity shareholders in 2002, 2003 and 2004, of which not more than 3 million would be issued for the purpose of effecting the stock dividend in 2002. G.L. c. 164, § 11 prohibits the declaration of a stock or scrip dividend, unless the Department of Telecommunications and Energy approves such declaration.

The Department will conduct a public hearing on Monday, May 13, 2002, at 10:00 A.M. at the Department's offices, One South Station, 2nd Floor, Boston, Massachusetts 02110. The Company's petition may be inspected at the Department's offices, Monday through Friday, between the hours of 9:00 AM and 5:00 PM. Additionally, the Company shall make copies available for inspection at Fall River Gas Company, 155 Main Street, Fall River, MA 02720.

Any person who desires to file written comments or to otherwise participate in this proceeding shall submit an original and three (3) copies of such written comments, or petition for leave to intervene in the proceeding, with Mary L. Cottrell, Secretary, Department of Telecommunications and Energy, One South Station, Boston, Massachusetts 02110, not later than the close of business (5:00 P.M.) on Thursday, May 9, 2002. One copy of all written comments or petitions to intervene should be sent to the Company's attorney, Cheryl M. Kimball, Keegan, Werlin and Pabian, LLP, 21 Custom House Street, Boston, Massachusetts 02110.

A petition for leave to intervene must satisfy the timing and substantive requirements of 220 C.M.R. § 1.03. Receipt by the Department, not mailing, constitutes filing and determines

whether a petition has been timely filed. A petition filed late may be disallowed as untimely, unless good cause is shown for waiver under 220 C.M.R. § 1.01(4). To be allowed, a petition under 220 C.M.R. § 1.03(1) must satisfy the standing requirements of G.L. c. 30A, § 10.

All written comments or petitions to intervene also should be submitted to the Department in electronic format using one of the following methods: (1) by e-mail attachment to dte.efiling@state.ma.us or (2) on a 3.5" disk, IBM-compatible format. The text of the e-mail or the disk label must specify: (1) the docket number of the proceeding (D.T.E. 02-27), (2) name of the person or company submitting the filing, and (3) a brief descriptive title of the document. The electronic filing should also include the name, title and phone number of a person to contact in the event of questions about the filing. Text responses should be written in either Word Perfect (naming the document with a ".wpd" suffix), in Microsoft Word (naming the document with a ".doc" suffix), or as an Adobe PDF file (naming the document with a ".pdf" suffix). Data or spreadsheet responses should be compatible with Microsoft Excel. All written pleadings or comments submitted in electronic format will be posted on the Department's Website, <http://www.mass.gov/dpu>.

ORDER OF NOTICE

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Southern Union Company ("Southern Union" or "Company") shall, no later than fourteen (14) days prior to Monday, May 13, 2002, give notice of said hearing by publication in the Fall River Herald News and either The Boston Globe or the Boston Herald. The Company is required to make return of service at the time of the public hearing.

By Order of the Department,

MARY L. COTTRELL, SECRETARY